

TRIUMPH TRUMPETER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE DESERT CENTRE-TRIUMPH REGISTER OF
AMERICA

Founded: 1980



Triumph Register of America

◀ Back



Ashford Little's 1970 TR6

April 2023
<http://www.dctra.org>

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NEXT CLUB MEETING

April 11, 2023

Business meeting @ 7pm

Denny's Restaurant

3315 N Scottsdale Road; Scottsdale, AZ

2023 CLUB OFFICERS

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One Year placement in the newsletter **AND** a link on the www.dctra.org website:

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Cover: Ashford Little's 1970 TR6. Membership chairman of 6-Pack.
Bought from former DCTRA member Simon Kotsailidis.

Prez Sez – April 2023

John Heisser, President

Last month's membership meeting at Denny's was a little chaotic; another group had booked the meeting room, when I checked with the manager. He said that DCTRA was not listed on their calendar. When I told him that we have been meeting there on the second Tuesday of the month for the past several years, he had no answer. However, they did accommodate us by using the area to the right of the cashier desk, and the service was good given all the confusion. I have tried contacting the other group's president to see if we could reach some kind of compromise, but he has not gotten back to me. I contacted the day manager at Denny's and explained the situation, so supposedly we have the room booked for the rest of the year, so we will see how it goes this month.

Digger Davitt Award committee's first meeting was very brief do to all the confusion at Denny's. There are only 4 members so far, Armand Lacasse, Pete Peterson, John Reynolds and me. I would like to see a few more members on this committee, so if you are interested, please contact Armand, John, Pete or me.

A few weeks ago, Roger Prior and I attended a car show in Sun City sponsored by the Collectors Car Club of Sun City. There were 6 Triumphs there (4 where non club members) among over 200 cars +/-.



The show was from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Roger and I were busy the whole time talking with people listening to their Triumph stories and recollections or answering questions about both of our cars. One young man (20 years old) and I talked for almost a half hour he was really interested in Roger's TR6. Roger had some small signs giving the history of his car and inviting "kids of all ages" to sit in the driver's seat for a photo. We only had one business card between us so some people took photos of it so they could visit the club's website. I have mentioned before the possibility of starting a group to attend car shows like this to promote our club and Triumphs. Attending this show has renewed that idea as a way of reaching the next generation of caretakers for our cars. I have thought about this idea a few times but have never followed through. Anyone have any thoughts or ideas on this subject? Please contact me with any suggestions, sounds like a topic for next month's Prez Says column. Take care, keep working on and driving those Triumphs!

Thx, John

EDITOR'S DESK

George M Montgomery, Editor

This month's cover photo is of a TR6 once owned by a former DCTRA member Simon Kotsailidis. Simon restored and modified the car with every feature available, including a RATCO frame and a 5-speed transmission. He drove the car for a few years and entered several shows. He subsequently sold the car to Ashford Little, the membership chairman for the 6-Pack Club. It is now back on the East Coast some place. (I forgot where.) I wish I had a different photo of it or while it was here, and Simon had it. The cover photo doesn't do it justice. It was truly a beautiful car. Too bad it couldn't at least stay here in the Valley so we could see it from time to time.

I received three technical articles this month (thanks guys) some short some not, but each valuable information that doesn't get mentioned often but are very important. Next month I have a feature that Armand sent me. You don't want to miss it. Stay tuned.

Pam Rineholt sent me a comment about watching a Brit show on Tubi via Amazon Prime Video, called Penelope Keith's Hidden Villages. She said in Season 3, Episode 1, Penelope mentions that her first car was a Triumph Herald. This program apparently has plenty of tidbits for British aficionados.

Are you coming to our business meeting on the 11th of this month? You'll enjoy meeting the folks there. They're nice folks. I like to meet with them. See ya there?

George

April 2023 Membership Report:

Welcome to our newest member Amy Dickey of Tempe. Amy joined the club at the March business meeting under her husband Jim's membership. Amy & Jim own a 1976 TR6.

A quick revision of our membership list now shows 140 memberships with 194 members.

Also at the March meeting: Michael Samuels purchased a club grille badge and license plate frame to display on his TR4 entry in the upcoming Copperstate 1000 rally.

John Heisser suggested we purchase 1000 club logo business cards to distribute to members who then can give away to other Triumph or British car owners, to promote our club. The purchase was made, but I apparently clicked the wrong button during the online order. The cards I received had our old meeting address in Tempe printed on the backside. Brief conversations with John and Armand LaCasse resulted in another purchase of 1000 cards with a blank back, to avoid any confusion regarding our current meeting location. The originally purchased cards are in good order, just need to strike-through or whiteout the address on the back. A name badge order was placed with our vendor for our six newest club members. If you have joined the club in the last few months, look for your name badge and new member packet to be available soon.

Marv Miller
Membership
miller2993@cox.net
(602) 380-5564

Application form on page 15

DCTRA EVENTS

DCTRA Events March thru April

April 11, 2013, Regular Business Meeting at Denny's 6 PM Dinner, 7 PM Meeting.

April 15-19 2023 Copperstate 1000 Rally. On Sunday the 16th, will be gathering up nearby Angel's Stadium, then arriving together as a group to park in the west side parking lot to join the festivities. More details will follow. Mark your 'day-planners' for this mega-event as is returning to 'full strength' octane, post Covid-19 'tapping of the brakes'.

April 29, 2023 East Valley Garage Tour '23 [New Event]. Visiting three gracious hosts this Spring: Ken Schmidt & Deborah Cooke, Bob & Mary Holt and John & Kathy Nuss; All three live in close proximity to one another. More details to follow.

Second Saturday each month, October through April: Cars and Coffee 8:00 to 10:00am
The Shoppes at Casa Paloma, 7131 W. Ray Road Chandler

Regular Occurrence Events

Status of All Events Are Unknown Presently

Some have restarted some have not Check and verify whether it open or not.

Hunts Donuts – 3rd Thursday University and the Loop 101

Cruz'n at Phil's - (every Sunday) Phil's Filling Station Fountain Hills, AZ

Cars N Coffee – 1st Saturday of the month, Mayo Blvd & Scottsdale Rd

Cars N Coffee – 2nd Saturday of the month, Alpino's at Troon

NEXT CLUB MEETING

April 11, 2023, in-person, and a Zoom link will be sent out also.



Desert Centre Triumph Register of America DCTRA Meeting Minutes

The March 2023 monthly meeting of the Desert Centre Triumph Register of America was called to order by President John Heisser at 7:00PM. Also present at the Denny's Restaurant site of the meeting were: Jim Bauder, Cal Busenitz (Spitfire), Ron Cole, Jim and Amy Dickey, Chris and George Durkin, John Heisser, John Horton, David and Aaron Ker, Armand LaCasse (GT6), Bob Mazer, Marvin Miller, George Montgomery, Dave and Denine Mure, John and Kathy Nuss, Pete Peterson, Scott Porter, Roger Prior (TR6), John and Pat Reynolds, Michael Samuels, Peter Sharp, and Oliver Strimelle.

New members Jim and Amy Dickey introduced themselves.

The minutes, as they appeared in the Newsletter, were approved. The Treasurer's report stated there is money in all accounts: Triumphest, operating and cash on hand. A discussion regarding interest bearing accounts, and money from Paypal was a part of the report time. At this time DCTRA uses PayPal for dues payment, and PayPal has no money from Triumphest.

Marv Miller reported a new member, Michael Turley from Buckeye, has a 1964 TR4. Also, the club has 193 members and 140 memberships.

George Montgomery, Triumph Trumpeter editor said "nothing new to report," though technical articles are always appreciated.

Events on the horizon:

March 18 John Horton's garage sale

April 16, meet to help send off DCTRA member Michael Samuels and son Josh in the Copperstate Rally.

April 29, East Valley Garage Tour.

Tech time: discussion of proper foot placement when at a stop. Foot Off The Clutch Pedal! The thrust washer will get scored and will need to be replaced. It was brought up that there is a web site, CustomThrustWashers.com, that will build thrust washers to an individual's specs.

There was no old business.

New business:

Reports from Roger Prior and John Heisser at the Sun City Car Show. They talked with visitors for four hours, even young folks wanted to know about the Triumphs.

Because of the car show report John Heisser moved that the club investigate business cards to help publicize the club and Triumphs. Moved and seconded that we buy 1,000 DCTRA business cards for members to use.

Dave and Aaron Ker reported on their weekend car show at Tin Lizzie Acres. There were terrific cars on display, trucks, washing machines, and campaign posters.

In the closing minutes, John Horton reminded members of his sale March 18 & 19, Jim Bauder offered more stuff to members that will make his move to California easier. Jim also bid a farewell to club members and all wished him well.

The meeting adjourned to the parking lot at 7:45PM

Respectfully submitted,
John Nuss, Acting Secretary

Clarendale Car Show

My friend Maria and I attended the Clarendale of Chandler (a senior living community) at (5900 S Gilbert Rd., Chandler) car show Saturday, 25 March '23. There were approximately 70 vehicles in the show. There was one TR4A and 2 MGs as shown in the pics. The '29 Studebaker Erskine in one of the pics is mine. The TR4A was awarded best of show, I think. I may have the award mixed up. The retirement facility provided lunch and live music during the show which ran from about 9 to 1. The theme for the show was '50's. There was a good mix of makes and models. There was dancing to the music and a good time for all. The folks from the facility definitely enjoyed coming out and looking at the vehicles and asking questions. The show is an annual event. I believe the MC said this was the 5th year.

Scott Grainger



TR250 & MGB-GT



TR4A



Scott's '29 Studebaker (Erskine)

Technical Corner

Check That Steering Flexible Coupling

George M. Montgomery

Several years ago, when I lived in Houston, TX, the Texas Triumph Register was caravanning to the South Central Triumph Regional Meeting in San Antonio. We were about fifty miles from our destination when we stopped for gas. As usual, with our hoods up, checking oil, engine, etc., John was talking with Mike and noticed the steering flexible coupling was cracked. The crack was on the underside of the steering column when the wheels were straight, as in parked. Mike had previously experienced this on his own car and knew where to look. This rubber piece was split almost halfway in two.

The coupling still had its lacing wire intact, which gave it some support. We had a reasonably short drive into San Antonio and the road was flat and fairly straight. Mike and John decided to lag behind and drive cautiously the rest of the way. At the regional meet, The Roadster Factory was there with a replacement coupling.



The point of this is to inspect this vital part, this upper universal joint in your steering coupling. It's there to absorb the road vibration coming through your column. The part can last for many years, depending on what part of the country you live in. Our dry Arizona climate can shorten its life somewhat. A crack can be easily missed, especially when it's on the underside of the column. It's a fairly inexpensive (\$20-25) part and easy to replace. And always do a complete and safe job by replacing using new lacing wire. If a cracked coupling should completely break in two pieces while you are performing "spirited driving" or coming down a mountainside, you will have a real problem.

George M Montgomery

Calibrate Your Torque Wrench

Michael Bulfer

Have you ever calibrated your torque wrench. Once I found that mine was under-reading by a third, after I had ruined a block! Lock the drive bar in a vice, hang a known weight from the handle and move it out until it clicks. The torque is the weight times the distance from the drive bar. Everyone uses a torque wrench. P.S oil cannister for Torque on GT6 and TR6 id 15-20 lbs. respectively.

Michael Bulfer

Technical Corner (cont)

Shifter Bushing Repair

Scott Drysdale

As I test a place I felt “slop” in my shifter. After arriving home and consulting with members of our group I learned that the nylon bushing inside the shifter had likely disintegrated. After much angst about taking the center dash support out, I pulled the carpet back, took the tunnel off, and dismantled the shifter. The group was right and little pieces of the nylon bushing were found underneath the shifter. It had, in fact disintegrated.

I called my friend Armand, who invited me up to his shop to have a look. He was prepared when I arrived with some of the parts I'd need, and he built (on his lathe) the parts he didn't already have. He and I cleaned and put it all back together, and I reinstalled it in the Spit. It now works like a dream!

Once again, this club and its members are a valuable resource that I appreciate. Being new to this restoration gig, I can't imagine restoring without you !

Thank you !!

Scott Drysdale

Sorting out my TR6 locks and keys

By Roger A. Prior, Jr.

When I purchased my TR6, I received 2 working ignition keys and one working cubby/boot key; the TR6 did not have door keys, nor a functioning boot lock. The cubby lock worked fine, with the key provided FS.911; however, both door locks and the boot lock seemed to have problems with the internal cylinder pins being jammed/broken inside the lock cylinder. For example, the boot key could only be inserted about one halfway into the boot lock. Not surprising for a TR6 celebrating its 50th birthday this August 2023.

I began the process of removal of the driver's side (DS) door lock. You well know the documented procedure, both window crank and door opener handle first. This first step took assistance from my brother, Bruce (who was visiting from his home in Tucson and a willing volunteer), and I, as 'newbies, took about 45 min. to remove both handles and finally the door 'card'. As was September, the ambient temperature was about 100 degrees in the garage, so both Bruce and I lost about 5 pounds each, I'm guessing during the removal procedure. We were both happy when we figured out how to remove the pins keeping both handles in place. Success arrives in small steps sometimes, with much patience. That day was considered a huge success, and Bruce returned to Tucson, after his first experience with Triumph maintenance.

I took both the door lock and boot lock to a local locksmith. Over the years as Junior Warden of All Saints of the Desert Episcopal Church, I had become friends with a local locksmith for repair of the church door locks, or when keys need work. I trusted my TR6 locks to be thoroughly looked over by this locksmith. But he was only able to help up to a point due

Technical Corner (cont)

to lack of specific knowledge about the British car locks. The locks were then returned back to the drawing board.

I'm trying to keep the TR6 in as original shape as I can, so after some research, on the Triumph Experience Forum, some options surfaced. One quite local option was Triple C British car folks in nearby Queen Creek. The owner was quite helpful, and a pleasure to speak with. Having grown up in Northern Virginia however, I decided on Option Two,

I sent the DS (drivers' side) door lock to Jake Voelckers, jake@britishkeys.com, 12292 Silent Wolf Drive, Manassas, VA 20112. He was able to disassemble the mechanism and find the key code. He repaired the damaged cylinder pins, and cleaned accumulated rust off the fork that locks/unlocks the door. The lock was returned to me in about 2 weeks, door to door.

Am now re-assembling the door, with the original functioning door lock. I will probably send Jake the boot lock mechanism next and let him work his magic on that component. I recommend Jake to those in need of British car lock assistance.

By the way, as an aside to this story, but a 'key' take away; the door lock key code provided by my British Motor Industry heritage Trust Certificate was incorrect. They said my TR6 door key code, as transcribed off the build sheet data-was FT.189. I had been told by both Jake and Triple C, that no such code existed. It was outside the range of key code numbers. So, the lock really had to be disassembled successfully to find the correct key code. I did write the Trust twice, in January '23, unfortunately, 'crickets'.

You ask, "so what is your correct door key code?" The answer is---FT.105.

Roger Prior



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CLASSIFIED ADS:

Free:

John Truttman has a collection of shop manuals and competition manuals for various cars. He only want them to go to someone who wants to use them.

John Truttman: 480-695-2591,
truttmanj@gmail.com



4-23

For sale: or Trade

I have a pair of TR6 black seats (high back) in good condition, which I would like to trade for a pair or TR4A or TR250 low back seats. Black and in good condition would be perfect, but I'm willing to rebuild/recover low back seats if I can find them.

If you don't want to trade please contact me if you are willing to sell.

Thanks,

Ray Gauthier
Sent from iPhone
503-260-4137

1-22

FOR SALE: Spitfire

Former member Cliff Philpot has a Triumphs for sale. A 1974 Spitfire 1500



Cliff is in his 90s and wants to sell both cars. Make him an offer.
Prospective buyers may contact Jan at 623-810-5511

9-21

CLASSIFIED ADS: (cont.)

FOR SALE:

Frame off rebuild. Have all receipts from Moss Motors, British motor parts, British wiring, new suspension front to back. All new brakes and brake lines. New wiring harness front to back. New weber carburetor and aluminum intake. New header, New aluminum radiator, new alternator new windshield new tires, New paint too much to list. Owner passed away in February family wants to sell needs interior, needs instrument panel and a few more odds and ends. If you have any questions give me a call. Jeff Gardner 928-889-7131



FOR SALE:

I have a commercial 3 speed vertical band saw and the 230 volt converter that needs to find a new home. I paid over \$1,150.00 and will takt \$850.00 for it.

The car lift was \$1,450.00 plus freight. I want \$900.00.

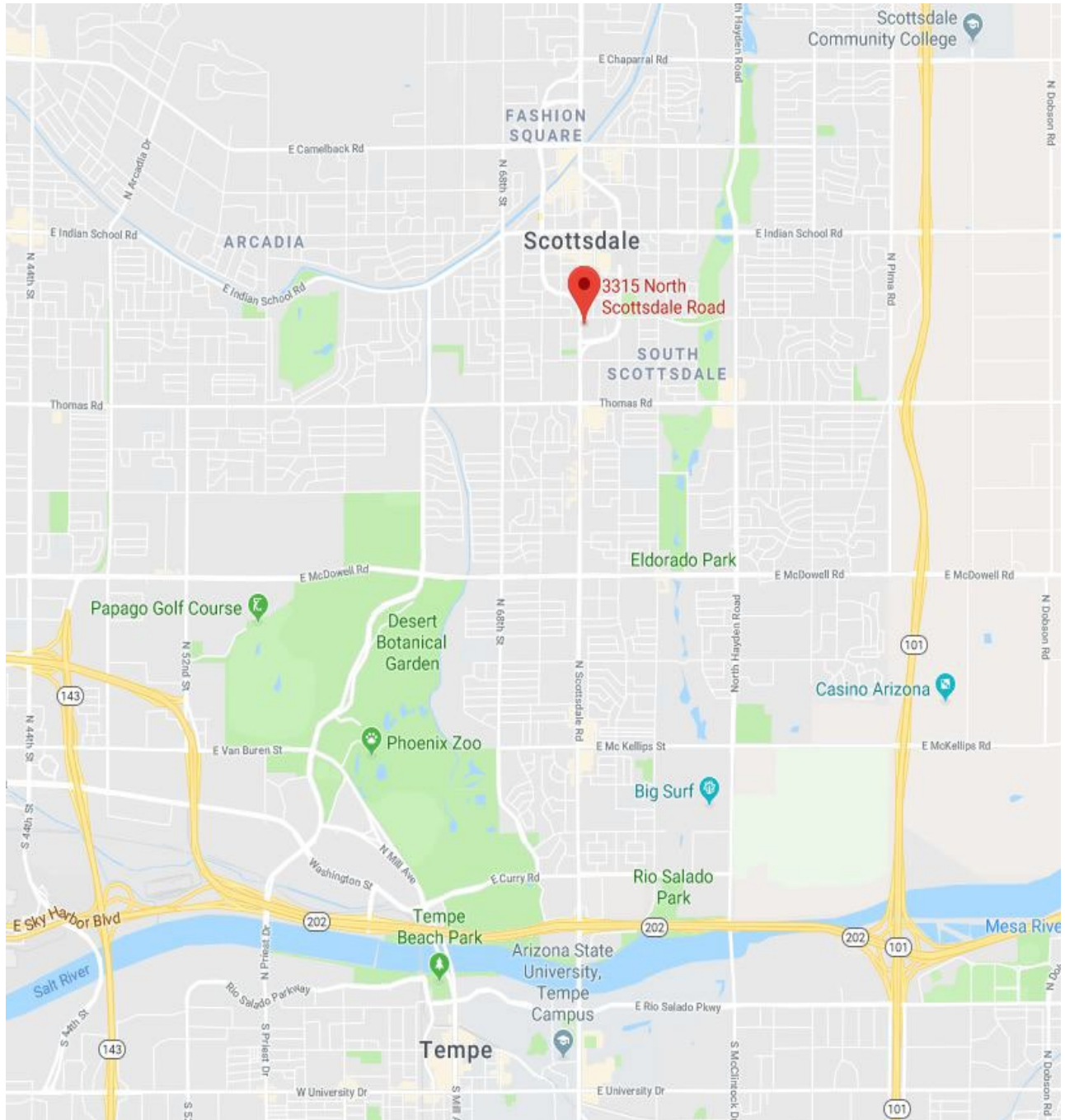
John Horton
602-843-1399
Triumphshoppe@gmail.com



3.1.23

DCTRA Club Meeting Location:

Note: Regular business meets are held on the second Tuesday of each month at:
Denney's Restaurant
3315 Scottsdale Road; Tempe, AZ





DCTRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT and return completed form with the correct amount of dues to:

DCTRA
Marvin Miller, Membership Chairperson
18811 N. Ginger Dr. Sun City West, AZ 85375
Phone: 602-380-5564 Email: miller2993@cox.net

NEW MEMBER:

RENEWING MEMBER:

MEMBER INFO (please print):

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Home

Cell

Email Address: _____

Classic Vehicles Owned:

Year	Model	Commission #

Year	Model	Commission #

Year	Model	Commission #

Each household membership includes one name badge. Additional name badges are available at the cost of \$6.00 each.

Name wanted on badge(s): _____

Do you want added to the Membership Contact list YES _____ NO _____

How are you paying your dues: CHECK _____ CASH _____ PAYPAL _____

(add \$2.00 process fee)

PLEASE NOTE:

If a new member is joining between January 1 and September 30- One-year dues are \$20.00, two-year dues are \$37.00 and three-year dues are \$55.00. If a new member is joining between

October 1 and December 31- One-year dues are \$25.00, two-year dues are \$42.00, and three-year

dues are \$60.00. This allows everyone's dues to become payable on January 1 of the appropriate year.

Regalia

We also have Grill badges (\$25.00 each), Lapel pins (\$5.00 each) and License plate frames (15.00 each) available for purchase.



Grille badge (3 inch diameter)
frame

Lapel pin (3/4 inch diameter)

Licenses plate

Membership fee	_____
Name tags @ \$6.00 each	_____
Grille badges @ \$25.00 each	_____
Lapel pins @ \$5.00 each	_____
License plate frame @ \$15 each	_____
Total enclosed	_____

Additional Space for more information:

Websites

Desert Centre-Triumph Register of America
www.dctra.org

Triumph Sports Car Club of San Diego	http://clubs.hemmings.com/sandiegotriumph
Portland Triumph Owners Association	www.portlandtriumph.org
Tyee Triumph Club(Seattle)	www.tyee.triumph.org
British Columbia Triumph Registry	www.3.telus.net/bc_triumph_registry
All British Field Meet (Portland)	www.abfm-pdx.com
Vintage Triumph Register	www.vtr.org AND www.vtr2007.com
Triumph 2000/2500/2.5 Register	www.t2000register.org.uk
Rimmer Bros	www.rimmerbros.co.uk
Stag Owners Club	www.stag.org.uk
TR Sports 6 Club	www.tr-register.co.uk/news.htm
British Auto Works (OR)	www.britishautoworks.com
British Wire Wheel	www.britishwirewheel.com
Save Our Cars	www.saveourcars.org
British Car Forum	www.britishcarforum.com
Triumph Travelers Sports Car Club	www.triumphtravelers.org
Southern California Triumph Owners Assn	www.sctoa.org
British Motor Heritage Group	www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk
6-Pack –USA Club for TR6/TR250 Owners	www.6-pack.org
Okanagan British Car Club (B.C.)	www.obcc.ca
Vintage Sports Car Club of Calgary (Alberta)	www.vsgcc.ca
Moss Motors	www.mossmotors.com
Small auction and forum	www.britishcarauction.com
Classic Autosport Magazine	www.classicautosport.net
International Spitfire Database	www.members.cox.net/spitlist
British Motor Club of Utah	www.britishmotorclub.org
Columbia Gorge MGA Club (Classic Gorge Rally)	www.columbiagorgemgaclub.com
Victoria British	www.victoriabritish.com
Triumph Register of Southern California	www.socaltriumphs.org
Hill Country Triumph Club	www.hillcountrytriumphclub.org
Tucson British Car Register	www.tucsonbritish.com
Central Coast British Car Club	www.centralcoastbritishcarclub.com
Texas Triumph Register	www.texastriumphregister.org
Delta Motorsports	www.deltamotorsports.com
C.A.R.S of Phoenix	www.englishbawbsclassics.com